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Introduction by Adrienne Mancia to CINEPROBE: AN EVENING WITH KENNETH ANGER. 3/12/74

I think it has been a privilege for all of us to have had Kenneth Anger in New York this winter, and the Department of Film feels privileged and honored to have him as our guest tonight. This is an occasion that is long, long overdue.

I do not know of another independent American filmmaker who is so open - open in spirit and mind - to the varieties of cinema experiences, genres, and styles, or who has done so much painstaking, devoted research into cinema history and traditions, as Kenneth Anger. But then, I do not know of another independent filmmaker who has had such a profound and stimulating influence on so many other filmmakers - be they the artists of the New American Cinema or the younger generation of filmmakers working in Hollywood. Yet, with all his openness and enthusiasm, Kenneth Anger has remained true to his own standards, uncompromising as to his own vision. He has never exploited himself or his ideas - even when he has had the opportunity. He is his own man; his cinema is his own personal achievement.

Tonight's program is not a short one - but it is a rare occasion and will be a rewarding experience to follow the progression of Kenneth Anger's work since 1947.

-- Adrienne Mancia, Associate Curator, Department of Film

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